Eco-tourism in Goa

817. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Goa has any scheme for Eco-tourism;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) whether the State Government of Goa has been given any financial assistance in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details of the assistance given till date?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) The Government of Goa, under the Western Ghat Development Programme, has developed basic facilities of accommodation, Nature Interpretation Centre, Nature Library, etc. for promotion of eco-tourism at Bondla and Mollem.

(c) and (d) In the current financial year, a Mega Project for Rs.4309.91 lakh has been sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism to the Government of Goa for Integrated Development of Infrastructure for Heritage and Hinterland Tourism in Goa, which includes eco-tourism components.

Promotion of tourism in Majuli island in Assam

818. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has not sanctioned any amount since 2003 to promote the majuli Island to attract foreign tourists in Assam;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government is planning any special package to Majuli for development of the island to attract more tourists;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (e) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation and interaction with them under following schemes:

1. Product/Infrastructure Development of Destinations/Circuits
2. Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects.
3. Information Technology
4. Fairs/Festival and Events